

CLAIMS

1. An image processing device for emphasizing a contrast of an image, which includes a means for converting data of an image from an image sensor into image data with emphasis of a change in brightness in each of plural luminous divisions by using a conversion table for output data of the image sensor.
2. An image processing device as defined in claim 1, wherein a whole luminous area of an image is divided into a plurality of continuous divisions and a continuous change in brightness in each of the divisions is emphasized.
3. An image processing device as defined in claim 1, wherein a whole brightness area of an image is divided into a plurality of continuous divisions, wider for a dark portion and narrower for a light portion desirable to be emphasized in contrast, and a continuous change in brightness in each of the divisions is emphasized.
4. An image processing device as defined in claim 1, wherein a whole luminous area of an image is divided into a plurality of discrete divisions and a change in brightness in each of the divisions separately emphasized.
5. An image processing device as defined in claim 4, wherein each of luminous areas between discrete divisions are converted into halftone image data.
6. An image processing device as defined in claim 1, wherein an image taken through an image sensor having a logarithmic output characteristic is processed.
7. An image processing method for emphasizing the contrast of an image from an image sensor, comprising the steps of converting input data of the image from the image sensor into output image data with an emphasis on a change in brightness in each of plural luminous divisions by using a conversion table to convert the input data to output data.

8. An image processing method as defined in claim 7, wherein a whole luminous area of an image is divided by the conversion table into a plurality of continuous divisions and a continuous change in brightness in each of the divisions is emphasized.
9. An image processing device as defined in claim 7, wherein a whole brightness area of an image is divided by the conversion table into a plurality of continuous divisions, wider for a dark portion and narrower for a light portion desirable to be emphasized in contrast, and a continuous change in brightness in each of the divisions is emphasized.
10. An image processing device as defined in claim 7, wherein a whole luminous area of an image is divided by the conversion table into a plurality of discrete divisions and a change in brightness in each of the divisions separately emphasized.
11. An image processing device as defined in claim 10, wherein each of luminous areas between discrete divisions are converted into halftone image data.
12. An image processing method as defined in claim 7, wherein the image is taken through an image sensor having a logarithmic output characteristic is processed.